

**Meeting Date:** July 18-20, 2007

**Agenda Item No. 16**

**Agenda Item:** Potential Fishing Rule Changes

**Bureau Chief Approval:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Prepared by:** Fred Partridge

**Background:**

Every two years, the Commission establishes the general fishing rules. We are now looking at rules to be considered for 2008 and 2009. This is a preliminary step for Commission approval to take proposed changes to existing rules to the public for comment and to solicit Commission input on proposed rules for public comment.

**Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:**

Sections 36-104(b) and 36-901 authorize the Commission to adopt rules concerning fishing, methods of take, seasons, and possession limits. Fishing rules are IDAPA 13.01.11.

**Public Involvement Process:**

The attached proposed rule changes are a mix of Department staff and public proposals solicited from our scoping process. Public proposals have been provided to the Department via conversations, written letters, and email during the last year and half and at public scoping meetings this spring.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Commission approval is requested so that the Department can take these proposed consolidated changes to the public for further comments. Comments and final rule proposals will be presented to Commission in November for final action.

**Justification:**

Continuation of rule making process.